

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 00559 180626Z

21

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 EUR-12 /079 W

----- 076041

R 180601Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2672

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0559

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-SYRIAN MILITARY LIAISON

REF: USDAO CAIRO IR 899 0034 75 (USDAO CAIRO 1470)

1. HAD OPPORTUNITY BRIEFLY DISCUSS WITH COS SHIHABI FEB 11
HIS RECENT VISIT TO CAIRO TO ATTEND ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL
MEETING ACCOMPANYING FONMIN KHADDAM.

2. SHIHABI COMMENTS ON ROLE OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF
ARAB FORCES ECHOED USDAO CAIRO VIEW THAT "THIS
POSITION IS SYMBOLIC FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES." SYRIA
MAINTAINS ONE OFFICER ATTACHED TO ITS RELATIONS OFFICE (I.E.
EMBASSY) IN CAIRO AND CAIRO MAINTAINS ONE OFFICER
ITS DAMASCUS RELATIONS OFFICE. RE SYRIAN LIAISON SECTION
AT EGYPTIAN ARMED FORCES HEADQUARTERS, SHIHABI
COMMENTED IT CONSISTED OF "ONLY A FEW."

3. GAMASSY AS INDIVIDUAL IS LIKED AND RESPECTED BY
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SYRIAN OFFICERS WHO HAVE KNOWN HIM OVER THE YEARS.

SHIHABI DESCRIBED HIM AS A "SOLDIER'S SOLDIER AND A
VERY OPEN, HONEST MAN."
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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